

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S/MS:MSHULMAN:EM

APPROVED BY S:DSPIEGEL

S/S:PTARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 266736

NODIS

CHEROKEE FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: UR, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH DOBRYNIN

1. DOBRYNIN CAME IN AT MY REQUEST NOVEMBER 7. WE COVERED
THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. I GAVE HIM A COPY OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO BREZHNEV,
AND ASKED HIM TO TRANSMIT THE GIST, BUT NOT THE FULL TEXT,
UNTIL YOU HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE FORMAL TRANSMITTAL
TO BREZHNEV IN MOSCOW. I SAID WE FELT THIS WAS IMPORTANT
IN DEVELOPING YOUR CHANNEL IN MOSCOW.

B. I ONCE AGAIN CONVEYED OUR FEELING THAT BREZHNEV HAD
MADE A CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION IN HIS NOVEMBER 2 SPEECH.

C. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, I SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR OUR TWO
COUNTRIES TO REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS IN ORDER TO OVERCOME THE
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RELUCTANCE OF THE PARTIES TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE ISSUES,
AND SAID WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE THE INFORMATION PROMISED
FROM THE SOVIET SIDE. DOBRYNIN SAID HE WOULD COMMUNICATE

WITH BREZHNEV AND GROMYKO, AND WOULD TRY TO GET A RESPONSE
QUICKLY. IN PASSING, HE EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT SADAT'S
RENEWED ATTEMPT TO ORGANIZE A PRELIMINARY WORKING GROUP.

D. I TOLD DOBRYNIN THAT I HAD BEEN TALKING WITH THE MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER, BOUCETTA, AND WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IN THE WESTERN SAHARA. I URGED THE SOVIET SIDE TO EXERCISE ITS INFLUENCE WITH THE ALGERIANS, AND WARNED THAT AS LARGER SIZE UNITS BECAME INVOLVED, THE DANGER INCREASED. DOBRYNIN SAID THIS WAS AN ISSUE IN WHICH OUR INTERESTS WERE PARALLEL, AND HE WOULD COMMUNICATE MY MESSAGE TO MOSCOW.

E. DOBRYNIN OBSERVED THAT SOLOMENTSEV IS NOT ONLY PRIME MINISTER OF THE RSFSR BUT ALSO A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO, AND URGED WE ARRANGE AS HIGH LEVEL A RECEPTION AS POSSIBLE.

F. DOBRYNIN REPEATED AN OBSERVATION HE HAD MADE ON THE TODAY SHOW, THAT IF THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS WENT WELL, IT WOULD BE NATURAL FOR BREZHNEV TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT SOON THEREAFTER.

2. SHULMAN SEPARATELY EXPRESSED TO DOBRYNIN SURPRISE THAT YOU HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DELIVER THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, AND ESPECIALLY THAT NEITHER BREZHNEV NOR ALEKSANDROV HAD KNOWN ABOUT YOUR REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-C, CHEROKEE 11/08/77, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE266736
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MSHULMAN:EM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840076-0388
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771183/aaaactan.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5231461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 672549
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH DOBRYNIN
TAGS: PPDC, PBOR, UR, US, XF, AG, MO, SS
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5231461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009